



# Guardian Angels Catholic Primary School

Hurst Lane, Birmingham, B34 7HN  
T: 0121 747 2782 | F: 0121 749 3004  
[www.grdangel.bham.sch.uk](http://www.grdangel.bham.sch.uk)  
[enquiry@grdangel.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@grdangel.bham.sch.uk)

Guided by the teachings of the Church we pray, work, celebrate, and care for each other and the other people using the gifts we have been given by God the Father, Son and Spirit.

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2020

## **IMPORTANT UPDATED INFORMATION**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you very much for your support with the new procedures within school due to the COVID19 situation. We at Guardian Angels understand that some of these may cause frustrations but we want to assure you that all we are implementing is in line with what we are expected to do. Birmingham City Council have informed all of its schools that:

"It is vital if a member of staff or pupil starts to develop symptoms (high temperature, new continuous cough or loss or change to sense of smell or taste) that the school/educational establishment takes immediate action" BCC 16<sup>th</sup> September 2020

As a school within a Government identified 'High Risk' area that is subject to strict social distancing conditions, it is our duty to ensure that anyone presenting with **ONE or more** of the above named symptoms does not enter or remain in school.

This means that any adult or child that begins to develop these symptoms in school, or if a parent reports these symptoms developing at home whilst not in school, they will be advised that the child must not be in school until one of the following happens:

- a) **A negative test result has been returned**
- b) **The pupil has self-isolated for at least 10 days.**

**If your child's condition changes, unfortunately we are not able to change our advice.**

COVID19 symptoms are similar to those of other ailments, and no member of school staff can distinguish between a 'seasonal' cough, high temperature causes or reasons for loss of taste or smell. The only way to rule out COVID19 is through testing or isolating for the specified time. School must carry out the instructions of Public Health England to ensure the health and safety of each and every pupil and staff member.

**Guardian Angels will always act upon the advice of the Government, Diocese, Local Authority and Public Health England, we will not change procedures based on how other schools locally are implementing their plans.**

We understand the frustration that the inadequate capacity of testing and track and trace systems is currently experiencing, but we cannot and will not compromise on our pupils or staff health and safety.

**We, of course, would like all children in school if they are well enough and if ONE of the above criteria is met.**

Absence periods for all other illnesses also remain in place. If you are unsure of whether your child should be in school or not following illness, guidance from Public Health England can be found by visiting:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities>





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## Procedures on School Site

All procedures implemented for drop off and collection times remain in place until further notice. Please make sure that:

- You attend school only at the year group allocated drop off and collection time.
- Abide by the drop off and collection zones allocated to your child's class.
- **ONE** adult from your household collects children
- 2 metre (1m+ if not physically possible) social distancing is maintained at all times from other families and staff to comply with local and national regulations.
- Please wear a mask if you are able to do so.
- Please ensure that thorough handwashing takes place on a regular basis.

For further information please see the Government's Hands, Face, Space initiative at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-campaign-to-prevent-spread-of-coronavirus-indoors-this-winter>

## Contacting the School Office

If you wish to contact the school office, please telephone 0121 747 2782 or speak to them using the buzzer and intercom system at the pedestrian gate on Hurst Lane. PLEASE DO NOT TRY TO ENTER THE SCHOOL UNLESS INVITED TO DO SO BY A MEMBER OF OFFICE STAFF.

## Please Be Kind

Unfortunately, during this difficult time, some parents have taken their frustrations out on staff members.

**This will not be tolerated. We are a Catholic school and expect that parents and carers treat our staff with the respect and dignity that they deserve.** Our staff are all carrying out their role under very difficult circumstances and are implementing the rules as laid out by Public Health England. Staff cannot change or bend these rules, irrespective of requests to do so.

This is an extremely difficult time for all of us, and we thank you for supporting us with these rules and procedures. This enables us to maintain as much normality as safe and possible in school for our children.

God bless

Mrs Helen Milligan

Head Teacher

